

FRS NEWSLETTER

Volume 5- Issue #32 - December 2001

Dear FRS-Holland Friends!

Welcome in this final 2001 edition. Time flies and as you read this we are preparing for the X-Mas Holiday Season. It's a while ago since the previous edition was published. I really (seriously) plan four editions for 2002 coming out mid March, June, September and December. In case this edition should arrive after X-mas I can only say: sorry...the post is always a bit more unpredictable during this time of the year. As we had collected a lot of interesting news since July, it was difficult to skip items. Therefore I decided to use a smaller and different letter font enabling to put more news within these 6 pages. Even though this font is really small, it's also legible, convincing me you won't have too much trouble in reading the FRS Newsletter pages. In fact you have almost 12 "normal" pages packed within this edition!! Next time however we are back at the normal size of the letter font!! I do hope that all of you send their renewal and perhaps some readers could send their 2002 renewal sometime in January instead of next Summer.... Season's Greetings are going out to all of you, may 2002 become a great year!

73's, Peter V.

Full of good intentions for the year 2002? Your first one is sending your renewal straightaway to FRSH, P.O.Box 2702 in 6049 ZG Herten. It is simple and takes less than 5 minutes. For € 6/ 4 pounds/ US\$6 you will receive this Newsletter for another year. Don't hesitate but do it...NOW!!!

* If you don't want sending coins you can pay :

- 1) a 5 euro banknote + one US dollar. Alternatively
- 2) a 5 euro banknote + 2x DM 1,10/ 2x f 1,10 stamps

FRS Broadcasting Activities

The past few months FRS carried out two broadcasts on SW. September 23rd we did a one hour broadcast on 7473 promoting the 24 hour marathon which was planned for Sept. 29th/30th on 7450 kHz. We started at 16.40 UTC Sat Sept. 29th. Already that same day numerous E-mails from all parts of Europe convinced us that the signal quality was good. Sun morning there was only a carrier on 7450. In the night of Sat to Sun something had gone wrong with the double cassette deck. At 08.00 UTC/10.00 CEST pxs recommenced but the modulation disappeared at 10.00 UTC at a moment that deck B had to take over from deck A. Yes, the same problem as during the night. The problem could not be solved instantaneously. As a result the complete broadcast went out again a week later in the weekend of Oct. 6th/ 7th. The listeners' response was very good: we received a total of 65 letters/ E-mails. In the weekend of Oct. 6th/7th FRS carried out brief trms on various 48 mb freqs putting out a loop tape with a message referring at our 41 mb activities that weekend.

The FRS 21st birthday pxs were intended to go Sun Nov. 11th but we were forced to postpone that for one week. Unless the previous broadcasts, this one didn't progress as smoothly as we had been hoping for. It's obvious a birthday broadcast is something special, we put a lot of effort into this broadcast. It's quite understandable one hopes no problems occur during the transmission. The facts proved the opposite... Conditions were not what you would expect from a November month. Particularly the noise level was high. The broadcast started at 09.22 CET and prior to that non-stop music interspersed by FRS interval IDs were played on 6201. The modulation level proved to be much too low at the start and as a result the level was upped twice coming to an acceptable level at approx. 09.45 CET (though still not 100%). From that moment it looked like if things were ok. Signal strength was satisfactory looking at the propagation. At approx. 11.00 CET the signal was affected by QRM. We decided to slightly alter frequency from 6201 to 6199. That happened at 11.23 CET. At the same moment the signal improved and so did the mod quality. Everything looked fine but at 11.35 CET the QRM returned increasing to an unacceptable level. We decided to move to the higher part of the 48 mb. Making use of a X-tal controlled tx, our choice was restricted to the x-tals which were available. Apart from a few others, 6240 and 6210 were unusable as these freqs or adjacent freqs were occupied. One thing we do not want is interfering with colleague stations. We had already kept an eye on 6286 but coincident or not, just before our proposed move to that channel. Alfa Lima signed on! A telephone call was made and we agreed with the RAL OP that he would clear 6284 (the freq he was on) at 12.10 CET. Thanks to him we could continue on 6286 doing the final part of the broadcast without any problems.

Signal strength and mod were both excellent on 6286. Close down was at 14.15 CET. Although the above factors put their negative stamp upon our Birthday party, things weren't that dramatic. The mod problem and the QRM certainly did not dominate our entire broadcast. The mod level was upped fairly quick and our signal was far stronger than the QRM. When looking at the Email reports, we got a reliable impression (to a certain degree). Some 65% of the Emails generally indicated good reception despite the mod and QRM problems. Some reports described our signal as being very strong. It's a pity that some people did only mention 6200 while the final two hours were on 6286 in (very) good quality. But the fact remained that generally speaking we were not satisfied with the overall results on the 18th and thus a repeat was planned a week later, this time on 7470 kHz 41 metres. Starting at 08.20 UTC part of the Birthday pxs were repeated. Signal quality on 7472 (and the last 45 min. on 7475) was very good although we feel sorry our signal caused some splatter on 7480 where colleague station CWR was broadcasting. Of course we have never had and will never have any intention to cause interference to any of our colleague stations! Also the response for the birthday shows was stimulating with some very interesting, long letters. On the 24th/25th Nov. many listeners were surprised by a combined E.M.R./FRS trm on 7450 kHz. Several archive recordings from former London landbased pirates like R.Jackie, London Music Radio, Skyline Radio, Radio Kaleidoskop and R. Invicta were aired varied with pop music. Signal quality on 7450 was solid resulting in reception in the USA during nighttime. The 7450 trm was produced by E.M.R. In the not too distant future, FRS and E.M.R. will be doing a joint production on 41 metres with pxs in Swedish, French, Dutch, German and English. And after these October and November activities, the next broadcast is almost here: December 22nd/23rd FRS has planned a 5+ hour X-Mas broadcast going out on 7450 kHz. The X-Mas Season will also see at least one test to North America on 48 metres in the early morning hours. Possibly on the 23rd and the 30th December! Looking back to the autumn broadcasts in our firm belief there is certainly a need for the kind of programming FRS is putting out. That strengthens our conviction to continue in 2002 with quality programming on SW!!

Manfred Bredow

It was only a few weeks ago that we at FRSH were informed about the sudden death of Manfred Bredow. Who's Manfred Bredow? For some people it's just a name, but not for us. Many will know him as a very dedicated SW Free Radio DXer. When FRS-Holland started in the 1980 Summer, we quickly built up a large following in the GDR. Looking in the FRS logbook, it appears that his first letter to FRSH was written Dec. 14th 1980, 4 months after our start. And it is Dec. 1980 marking the start of a kind of friendship between Manfred and the FRS crew. The 75 letters we received in the 21 years of FRS broadcasts is the best proof for this strong tie. None of us ever met Manfred but all of us felt he was a very loyal FRS listener. Manfred died July 4th in the age of 41. Coincidence or not: today, Sun Sept. 30th he would have become 42. We all are shocked by losing a one of our most faithful listeners. We wish his family all the strength and courage they need in the upcoming period. And for a very final time we say: thank you Manfred for being a FRS-Holland listener for more than 20 years, thank you for your enormous support. may you rest in peace.

FRS Sales Productions

FRS Sales Productions offers you a wide range of video and audio tapes from radio stations all over the world. At this moment a great number of new recordings (more than 100 hours) are added to the list. We also try to finish off the video list. All prices in German Marks and Dutch guilders are converted into euros. In case you are interested in obtaining the complete brandnew FRS Sales Prod. Catalogue, then send € 1.50/ 2 IRCs/ US \$2.00/ £ 1.00 to FRS Sales Productions, P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands. Special offers will be made via the quarterly FRS Newsletter and on the Internet. We offer tapes & videos for incredible prices, special discounts are given when ordering more than 5 tapes. And: recordings can also be obtained on MD or CD!! It's worth while to get hold of the revised catalogue, so where are you waiting for?? The FRS SALES LIST 2001 contains hundreds of recordings from radio stations all over the world. It's also available via Email (attachment) in Ascii, Word or Corel WP9 format (free). It's worth while to get hold of the revised catalogue!!

< frsh@club.tip.nl >, < frsh@go.to > or

< peter.verbruggen@tip.nl >. In the not too distant future our Email address will be changed to a new one.

P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands

Stuart Dobson is looking for tape recordings of Samantha Dubois. If any of the FRS readership has such recordings in his collection, please drop him a line at Church View, Sandon Rd, Hilderstone, Stone, Staffordshire ST15 8SF in the UK. Alternatively you can write to POBox 2702 in 6049 ZG Herten.

SW FREE RADIO SCENE

General



Hello and welcome in this Winter 2001 edition of the FRS Newsletter. In the double-issue of July, we mentioned to be covering the SW scene till June 3rd. That was wrong: instead of June 3rd it had to be Sunday July 15th. So that means we cover in this issue Sun July 22nd 2001 - Sun Dec. 9th. However, we emphasize on the news from the October- December period. A historic day for all broadcasters in the world: Wed Dec. 12th saw the 100th anniversary of Marconi's first transatlantic radio transmission. Radio Amateurs were having special QSOs using kite antennas (Marconi used a kite antenna to receive the "S,S,S" on that day long ago).

Better propagation

Sun August 12th marked the start of better propagation conditions on the SW bands. That Sunday many stations were heard in excellent quality. Also Sun September 2nd conditions were excellent resulting in a great number of logs, many in very good quality. Several stations using only 50W were received loud and clear. October and November saw mostly fair/good propagation on Sundays.

Reception in the USA:

It seems a bit weird but already since August numerous stations have been logged by US DXers. Normally this phenomenon is taking place in the winter months. A few stations were logged on higher freqs but also a number of stations using 48/41 freqs have been heard: RFL on 5805, Shadowman on 6275, Tower Radio on 6288, UK Radio on 6266, JRR on 6239, De Casanovas on 6240, Grenslender, Nova & Marabu on 6210, SRE on 6276, Borderhunter on 6240 & 7480, Aquarius on 6305, Classic Rock Radio on 7470, Radio Black Arrow on 6235 & 6280, Radio Dr. Tim on 6260, Stardust Radio on 6270, Mike Radio on 6293, 6295 and 6305, Geronimo on 6303, Spaceman on 6295, Radio Northlight on 6295, JRR on 6239, Foxfire on 6295, Alfa Lima on 6303, Radio Veronique on 6402, Ozone on 7434 & 7490, LHH on 6220 and 7465, UK Radio on 6266, Radio Nova on 6210/ 7450, Radio de Casanovas on 6240, Radio De Bloemenwekerij on 6240, 6245 & 6299, WMR on 7446, RWI on 7484, Ozone/BBMS on 7490 and FRSH on 7450. RAL was regularly logged on 15070 kHz/ 19 mb. Also logged were Mike Radio on 9290 and Geronimo on 9315, Radio Black Arrow on 15806 kHz and Borderhunter on 15795, outsider Wrekin Radio on 12256 kHz, ROZ in 21890 and last but not least Bandonica/ Enterprise on 11485 kHz/ 26 metres with very fine modulation quality.

Bad news

The Dutch RDR has ordered 22 brandnew devices for tracking down illegal radio stations. In other words: the battle against pirates is intensified. Every year some 1,000 Dutch pirates are being tracked down, mainly on FM. The majority of pirates are located in the eastern regions of the Netherlands.

► **STATIONS ON HIGHER FREQS:** RWI 11401/Q103 11440/Bandonica 11485/ Wrekin R.int. 12256/ US pirates 13910 / Alfa Lima 15070/ R.Borderhunter 15795/ R.Black Arrow 15805/ ROZ 21890 .

► **RADIO ALFA LIMA** (3) has been again very successful with its 19 mb broadcasts on 15070 kHz. Without any problem, the station made it several times across the Atlantic. For instance Sun August 5th RAL was received between 04.09-06.30 UTC with a great signal, SINPO: 43444. Also the mod quality was described as being "excellent". If you are interested in a relay: one hour costs 15 US Dollar. RAL guarantees a power between 200 and 400W. Record your show on Tape, MD or CD. One important restriction is that your show goes out between approx. 22.30 and 07.00 UTC in the weekend. For detailed info mail to < alinter@rendo.dekoot.nl > . RAL continues this winter with nightly shows on 15070 kHz and on Sun mornings at the higher part of the 48 mb. Websites: < www.alfalima.net > and < www.alphalima.net > .

► **RADIO AQUARIUS** was heard live from the famous Gronau meeting on 6305 Sat Sept. 1st. The following day the station was heard with another live show on 6200 and 6300. Signal quality was excellent during all occasions. Trms came from Radio Cupido using a different name for this special occasion. Address is P.O.Box 9, 8096 Z27 december 200127 december 200127 december 2001G Oldebroek or Email < cupidioradio@hotmail.com > .

► Following the dispute some months ago between BNL/CWR on one side and Ozone Radio on the other side regarding the use of 7480 Sun mornings, it looks like the story continues. But now **RADIO ATLANTIS** have a leading part instead of Ozone. What happened? Radio Atlantis used 7480 on a Sat evening and when leaving that channel on Sun morning, BNL was on 7480 as well. Atlantis says that it is not their intention to interfere with colleagues. In addition the station rejects the idea of some stations claiming certain frequencies. "Claiming an illegal frequency by anyone is nonsense." When a freq is free everyone has the right to use it. In case a freq is occupied, Atlantis will use an alternative one. Now some infos regarding Atlantis' broadcasts: the broadcasts on the 48 and 41 meter were tests with relatively low power. These broadcasts have produced heaps of reactions on their email address. The test on the 48 meter did not give the expected results the Atlantis had hoped for. However the 41 mb turned out to be successful. Hence they've decided to continue on that band. Later this year Atlantis will also start broadcasting on 15 MHz. Broadcasts will not be regular but will be announced. A DX-Show will be part of the programming. Sun Nov. 4th saw another incident when Atlantis occupied 7480 before Level 48 started trms on 7480 as well. Although we feel freqs are not protected or reserved for use by any particular station, free radio does not mean unstructured radio. These are the words of UD DXer Dave Hodgson and we fully agree with his point of view. There must be an informal structure or self regulation within the Free Radio community. It is obvious 7480 is used most weekends by BNL and CWR for already years. So it would be clever if station OPs should speak to each other prior to a broadcasting weekend. As there are a number of free spots on both sides of 7480, why not using 7485, 7490 or 7500? Jens Martin of Benelux offered Atlantis the following deal: BNL and CWR keep quite on 7480 for two weeks to give Atlantis the chance to air a

PROPER programme. If Atlantis claims this channel for its programmes - here is the chance, but they like to hear an interesting programme (not non stop mx with stolen jingles) where listeners have the opportunity to write in to a mailbox for getting a reply. Otherwise they won't accept Atlantis as a "real" free radio station. Do not play non stop mx as noone is interested in! Use own jingles and do not play BNL and CWR jingles. Show us that you are right! (Jens Martin & Chris Ise). BNL and CWR can be contacted over SRS Germany address. Sun Nov. 18th/ Sun Dec. 9th Atlantis was heard on 7480. During the Dec. trm there was quite some QRM from the powerful VOTN/RECH tx on 7485 kHz. No address known. Email: < radioatlantis@hotmail.com > .

► **RADIO BANDONICA** (3) does have a new Email address which is < bandonica@hotmail.com > . Their webpage remains < www.geocities.com/radio_bandonica/ > & < www.listen.to/bandonica > . Bandonica/Enterprise site is: < radioenterprise.glow.nl > .

► In recent months **RADIO BENELUX** was regularly logged on 7480 with usually nice signals. Unfortunately the modulation quality is not always 100%. Sun July 29th saw BNL for a change on 48 metres 6252 kHz. Signal strength was excellent although only some 20W were used. Six days later BNL broadcasted live on 6260 from the Merchweiler camp. BNL OP Jens Martin is once again become involved in a frequency dispute. For more info regarding this topic see Radio Atlantis! Address is P.O.Box 73, 7160 AB Neede in the Netherlands.

► Sat Nov. 24th Dutch **RADIO BARRACUDA** was first heard on SW on 6295. Before that date the station was only known for its rare MW trms in the 1636-1650 kHz range. According to the station OP power was only 5W making use of a omni-directional antenna system. Neither an Email nor an address was given on air.

► **RADIO BLACKBEARD** was heard on 6306 Sun Oct. 14th. The station is now also active on the Internet using the facilities of Live365. Via < www.live365.com/stations/75388 > you can listen to Blackbeard. Email addresses: < bfm@orange.net > and < blackbeard@hotmail.com > .

► A new Dutch station is **RADIO DE BLAUWE VOGEL**. It's a Dutch MW station which was heard with a strong signal on 6297 Sun Dec. 2nd. Try it via this address: P.O.Box 20, 7894 ZG Zwartemeer in The Netherlands.

► **RADIO BLOEMENWEKERIJ** is a Dutch station making use of a R&S SK10 in combination with a home-built PA unit with powerful Eimac tubes. The station identifies in English as BK Radio. Reports to P.O.Box 145, 7160 AC Neede, Netherlands. Email: < bloemen@wxs.nl > .

► **RADIO BLUE STAR** is rather inactive thees days. Sun Nov. 11th Blue Star popped up on 9290 kHz. Sun Dec. 9th at 09.30 a test was conducted on 7290! Interesting. Signal was poor/ fair. Add is P.O.Box 1104, 8001 BC Zwolle. E-Mail: < bluestar@home.nl > .

► **RADIO BORDERHUNTER** was heard on 15795 kHz LSB in the USA Sun August 5th between 0425-0650 UTC. According to US DXer Dave Valko the station was heard with a SINPO of 45544 (!!) describing the signal as "excellent". August 10th Borderhunter was conducting a power test. During the test the power was being decreased from 25W to less than a watt! The test was on 15795 LSB and the OP dropped the power in increments over a 40 minute period. UD DXer Dave Valko produced the following summary: 25 watts @ 22.30 Fair/good copy; 10 watts @ 22.40 Fair copy; 1 watt @ 22.45 weak/fair copy; 500 milliwatt- 1 watt from 22.45-23.02 Weak but still every word could be copied; 0-100 milliwatts Very weak, a very weak copy in Nashville, TN USA but still audible. Dave Valko The station can be contacted via Email: < borderhunter@hotmail.com > . All "normal" post should be sent to: P.O.Box 44 in B-2387 Baarle-Nassau, Belgium..

► **BRITAIN RADIO INT.** was heard testing via JRR on 6239 Sun August 19th. At 09.00 a nice signal could be picked up on the European continent. As you will know, BRI hasn't been heard for a long time. The station operated by Roger Davis was a longtime SW broadcaster concentrating on putting out decent programming Sun mornings. Sun Sept. 16th saw another BRI broadcast on 6239 via JRR. Sun Oct. 28th and Nov. 4th BRI was heard on 6244 kHz. At the moment BRI programming is irregular and we do not know whether the station plans a regular service perhaps via own txs. The following address was mentioned: P.O.Box 39, Waterford in Ireland.

► Radio Mario was heard on 6276 Fri August 10th. The station clashed with Swinging Radio England using that freq each weekend Fri till Sun. We believe Mario is operated by the same person who's in charge of the new **RADIO DE CASANOVAS**. This station was first heard on 6275 Sat August 11th. Sun August 12th the new station was noted on 6201 with mostly Dutch tear-jerkers but also German Schlagers and light pop music. The station produced a smashing signal, no doubt the station's tx has a capacity of several hundred of watts. Sources claim 0.8 kW! The OP claims the station is located in the Dutch Achterhoek, an area between the city of Arnhem and the German border. This area is known for high pirate activity, particularly on FM and AM.. Since mid August the station has been regularly heard on several freqs including 6240. Sat and Sun Nov. 24th/25th Radio De Casanovas was heard with lengthy trms carried out on 6245. The station was heard at various times during morning and afternoon. A very powerful signal was noted but unfortunately this was accompanied by a 30 kHz splatter! Add is P.O.Box 46, 7160 AA Neede, The Netherlands. Email is < mario@hetnet.nl > .

► Among the many new German stations, so now and then a new Dutch station is popping up on the SW bands. August 26th saw the unofficial start of **CLASSIC ROCK RADIO** (3). Some 500W of power were announced. The station was noted with an impressive signal on 7470. Almost non-stop classic rock tracks were heard interspersed by female IDs. Sun Sept. 2nd CRR officially commenced pxs on 7470/ 41 metres. Pxs started as early as 04.00 UTC and were in SSB. Even though, the modulation quality was good. The first part of the broadcast was aimed at listeners outside Europe. Later that morning at approx. 07.00 UTC operations continued in AM for the European audience (repeat of the earlier broadcast). The success of this



debute was overwhelming. More than 30 letters were received and in addition numerous Emails. Apart from a number of European countries, mail poured in from the US, New Zealand, Australia. Classic Rock Radio had its second broadcast on 7470 kHz September 30th starting around 04.00 UTC time. The first part CRR used the USB mode switching to normal AM at 07.00 UTC for the European audience. Listeners are requested to send their 5 favourite classic rock tracks, one of them is to be played during a next trm. The November 4th trm was cancelled. CRR announced a return on SW on Sun Dec. 2nd. The trm was planned to start as early as 05.00 UTC in USB followed by an AM repeat for the European continent at 07.30 UTC. In the previous weeks the station OP had to solve a serious technical problem forcing the station to remain silent for some time. Due to sad and unforeseen private circumstances the trm had to be cancelled. Email: <classicrockradio@hotmail.com> and website <www.geocities.com/classicrockradio>. Address is (3).

▷ **CRAZY WAVE RADIO** from Germany clashed with Likedeeler Radio Sun July 29th. Both stations were using 7480. Following some discussions between CWR/BNL and Likedeeler, the problem seems to have been solved. Sat August 4th CWR was transmitting live from the Merchweiler camp on 6261 kHz. A strong signal was produced. Sun October 14th and 21st CWR was on 7480. Pxs were hosted by Chris Ise & Andy Walker. CWR can only be contacted via Email: <christise@gmx.net>.

▷ German **CRYSTAL RADIO** tested with only 8W of power on 6400 kHz Sun Oct. 14th 07.00-08.00 UTC. The station used a 4 metre vertical long wire. Website: <listen.to/crystalradio>.

▷ Thurs August 9th a station calling themselves Radio Testzender was active on 6274 kHz. The name "Testzender" was temporarily used during the test period. There's reason to believe the person behind this one is the former OP of Radio Delta Elburg. Sun August 12th the old name **RADIO DELTA INT.** was used on 6297 and 6300. Power is said to be 40W but judging the signal-strength we believe it's much higher. Certainly enough to provide a nice and strong signal. Sun Sept. 16th Delta was heard on 6302. In the 70s Delta was one of the many popular Dutch 227 m stations. In the 80s Delta left the MW and moved to SW. Email add is <radiodeltainternational@hotmail.com>. And it seems the Elburg address is still in use: P.O. Box 41, 8080 AA Elburg, The Netherlands.

▷ **RADIO DEVALON INT.** (9) is from now on using the SRS-Germany address which is P.O.Box 1136, D-06201 Merseburg, Germany. Dec. 16th starting at 10.00 CET, RDI will be airing a X-Mas Special.

▷ **RADIO EAST COAST HOLLAND** (3). The current homepage will be closed before the end of the year. Only use <listen.to/eastcoastholland> or <www.geocities.com/eastcoastholland>. Email address remains <eastcoastholland@hotmail.com>. The Dutch sister stations RECH and VOTN have announced that their joint traditional New Year's Eve BC will take place also this year. 6285 in parallel with 7490 or 7485 will be used on Mon Dec. 31st starting early in the morning for US DXers and continuing throughout the day for the European audience. For more details you surf to RECH's website and click on the button 31-12-2001 for more information. Sun Dec. 9th saw a test on 7485 testing out the big tx which will be used in 8 days. The test lasted a few hours and gave very satisfactory results.

▷ **RADIO EAST SIDE** did its final broadcast Sun Nov. 18th on 6260. Using the name EAST SIDE BEER DRINKERS, OP Alex ventilated all of his frustrations during the broadcast. According to him, the current SW scene has turned into a kind of CB Radio with sporadic music pxs; the situation in which SW stations offered a real alternative to the official scene doesn't exist anymore. As we are living in the digital age, the current transmitter technology is out of date. The POBox in Merseburg has closed down taking effect immediately. At least: for any RES mail. It seems Radio Powerplay is still using the address. The website is no longer accessible nor is the Email address.

▷ Monday Nov. 12th saw tests from the **FARMERS FROM HOLLAND** on 6285. Output power was 100W and that's - speaking in terms of the Farmers- low power! Thursday, Friday and Sat Nov. 15th/16th/17th more tests were heard, generally speaking the signal strength was rather poor. In the night of Sat Dec. 8th to Sun Dec. 9th the Farmers were to be heard on 3924 kHz with nice signal strength. Add is P.O.Box 108 7720 AC Dalfsen.

▷ **RADIO FREE LONDON** closed down its 51 mb service on 5805 Sun Oct. 7th. Already earlier this year- in February- RFL closed down due to internal disputes. The station returned in May and was to be heard each weekend with a wide variety of pop music. Dave Small said that due to acts of vandalism at the 1124 AM medium wave site, Kenny Myers and Eric May between them had decided to suspend, if not totally close down, the whole RFL operation. The following message was sent over the Internet by Ken Myers: "Due to increasingly hostile reaction to the broadcasts of Radio Free London, and rapidly increasing tension that is liable to end in violence, I have decided that the plug will be pulled on our broadcasts after October 7th 2001. In the 28 years I have been involved with RFL it has only come to this once before. That was in the early nineties when the London FM frequencies were all taken over forcibly by stations with strong commercial interests ranging from drug peddling, event promotions or record plugging. Many stations of a more independent nature had the equipment stolen and any attempt at defense was met with threats from baseball bats or even, on at least one occasion, firearms. The reasons today are different, but the pressure is similar. I would like to thank you all for your support and I hope you enjoyed the programmes we did manage to broadcast." The question is whether this close down is a temporary one or for good. We have to await things. The RFL Email address is <5805@radiofreelondon.co.uk>. Pxs were presented by Dave Small, Kenny Myers and Eric May and female presenter Jody. RFL has started medium wave trms for the London area on 1125 kHz/ 266 metres. The station is using a site which

was already used a few years ago. Snailmail add is 101B Kings Cross Rd, WC1X 9LP, London, UK

▷ British **RADIO GERONIMO** (10) had to cancel a trm which was planned on Sun Sept. 9th. The Geronimo OP was unable to be on air because access to the antenna site was blocked by a shooting party, one of those things you have to deal with when broadcasting from a mobile site! Sun Sept. 16th Geronimo put out a 60 minute show on 7475 kHz. Sat Sept. 22nd Geronimo was relayed on 15070 KHz via RAL and a day later also on 6303. US DXers heard Geronimo that night. Oct. 7th Geronimo was noted on 7390kHz at a very late time of 11.00 UTC with a Dave Scott Classic Rock program. Geronimo jumped to 31mtrs 9330 kHz after this to put the same program out again. Sun October 21st Geronimo was relayed by Alfa Lima on 6303 and 15070. Thursday Nov. 1st Geronimo was on 60mtrs (4825) between 17.15 and 17.45 hours. And Sunday morning Nov. 4th a successful early morning test (01.55-02.45) was done on 9315 to the USA Dec. 2nd saw the station only for a short while on 7475 as the OP had forgotten to take with him the large car battery. Several broadcasts over the X-Mas Holiday Season are planned.

▷ Sun Sept. 30th Dutch **RADIO HOLLANDIA** tested on 6300 kHz. The station is known for its Medium Wave trms but is the umpteenth pirate switching to SW. As far as we know the popular R&S SK10 tx was used giving an output of 40W. We cannot supply you with the station's address.

▷ **INTERNATIONAL MUSIC RADIO** is among the increasing number of SW stations using the <www.live365.com> facility. Pxs will be aired on Saturday at 15.00, 19.00 and 22.00 UTC and Sun at 12.00 UTC. For reports use this Email address: <baseldx@hotmail.com>.

▷ **JRRI** switched to 6244 kHz Sun Oct. 6th after continuous interference on 6239 from continental stations using 6240. JRR OP Joe Vincent continuously discussed the choice of freqs via the Internet. But it seems he was (is) fighting a losing battle. Sun Oct. 28th 6244 was once again used. Email: <jr_radio@HotMail.com>. Add is P.O.Box 39, Waterford in Ireland.

▷ **RADIO KORAK INT.** was heard on 3927 Fri Nov. 16th and 30th in the evening hours. Non-stop music and Int. lds were aired and the signal had the usual high standard. Sat Dec. 8th Korak was heard on 3907 kHz. The station was forced to use this alternative freq as the Farmers were testing on 3924 thus preventing Korak from starting pxs on the fixed 3927. Address is POBox 134 in 3780 BC Voorthuizen in the Netherlands. RKL is one of the few Dutch survivors on the 76 mb. A lot of stations have disappeared or switched to 48.

▷ In the first November weekend, **LEVEL 48** was in full action. Level 48 is a collaboration of mainly German and Dutch SW stations. For a long period Level 48 was inactive and it wouldn't have surprised anybody when hearing about the close down of Level 48. But then the better it is when hearing an unexpected return on air!! As usual pxs commenced on Friday on 76 metres with BNL, CWR and Spaceman on 3904 and 3906, putting out nice and strong signals. Pxs continued on Saturday on 6260 and 6289 with the same stations being involved. Also on Sun Level 48 was on air on 6260 and 6263 and in addition in parallel 7480 kHz 41 metres. Unfortunately there was QRM on 7480 because Atlantis was using the same frequency, much to the Level OPs annoyance. Apparently the Atlantis OP went on the air at a moment 7480 was free. The only UK person involved was Andy Walker but he was certainly not representing RFL, already since February of this year he's no more part of the RFL team.. Over the weekend listeners could phone the station, two German numbers were mentioned on air. In addition the US Free Radio Network's chatroom was used for discussion Saturday 12-14 UTC. Only one listener joined in to talk to Andy Walker who contributed a couple of shows to this Level 48 weekend. Level 48 can be reached via new mailing address: c/o SRS Germany, P.O.Box 1136, D-06201 Merseburg thus changing its policy against the so-called QSL hunters. Once again a QSL card is being issued to those sending in a correct report. Email: <Level48@37.com>.

▷ **RADIO LIBELLA** was heard on 6290 Sat August 11th with a mobile trm. The station uses some 35W. E-mail: <radiolibella@hotmail.com>.

▷ **RADIO LIKEDDELER** has been active on 41 metres lately. Sun Nov. 4th 7506 was in use and on the 11th 7423. Both times fair to good signals were heard at the FRS headquarters in the Netherlands. Sun Nov. 25th saw the station on 7423. In the 48 mb 6260 was used in parallel but on this freq a very weak signal was noted. 7423 was fair/ good. Sun Dec. 2nd 7506 was in use. Address is P.O.Box 73, 7160 AB NEEDE.

▷ **RADIO MARABU** - Europe's radio station for alternative music- was heard with a Bob Dylan special via the IRRS outlet on 7120 kHz Sun August 12th. Sat/ Sun August 11th/12th and Sept. 8th/9th Marabu was heard with solid signals on its usual fixed 6210 freq. Also in Oct/Nov/Dec Marabu was heard with several broadcasts on 6210 with the usual good signals and interesting pxs. Radio Marabu, POBox 1166 - D 49187 Belm. E-mail is <marabu@radiomarabu.de>. Website: <www.radiomarabu.de>.

▷ One of the new stations on the SW bands is German **RADIO MERKUR** being logged on 6270 in the morning hours of Sun Sept. 30th. Signal quality was moderate. The station's address is via East Side Radio: SRS Germany, P.O.Box 1136, D-06201 Merseburg. Also an Internet facility is available: <radiomerkur@bluemail.cc>.

▷ **MIKE RADIO** from the Netherlands was raided on Sunday October 28th at 00.00 UTC. At the moment of the raid the station was broadcasting just above 6300 kHz. No less than 4 police cars and a total of 9 persons were involved. But that's not the whole story: the Dutch authorities confiscated two R&S SK050 ts. One unit was modified using different PA valves (4/1000A) and connected to a separate modulator using two QB5/1750 valves. Power was more than 1 kW. In addition audio equipment, CDs and even a receiver were taken away. The total loss amounts to some 10,000 guilders. Looking at the reason for the raid, one of the officers said



that Mike Radio was causing interference to another service within the 6300-6310 range. The complaint came from Germany. A strange reason knowing several freqs within the 6300- 6315 kHz range have been used each weekend in the past years by many different stations. If stations are really causing interference, why not intervene earlier? Fact is Mike Radio was very often on the air, trms were not restricted to weekends only. And: Mike Radio was using a very powerful tx. But on the other side: much power is used by at least 10 Dutch stations who are regularly heard on 48 metres. Fact is that Mike Radio will challenge the decision to confiscate his receiver, audio equipment and the tx which was not in operation. According to a new law, you may have a tx provided it is not connected to electricity power and an antenna. Website: < www.mike48.com >. Email: < mikeradio48@hotmail.com >. The P.O.Box 23, 8090 AA Wezep, the Netherlands has been closed down. The Mike Radio OP claims the station will soon return "with a lot of power" from a new studio. A few days after the raid, a kind of roundtable discussion was started on the Internet. Main questions: which freqs are really free to use and are the postings on the Internet a danger to for instance Dutch SW stations? Trying to answer the first question: when looking at the freq lists there are not many suitable freqs left for pirates in the 48 mb. On one hand a great number of freqs have been allocated to legal broadcasters from several European and non-European countries. And on the other hand the same number of freqs are occupied by utility stations. Of course there's a big difference between theory and practise. Some of the stations are using 48 mb freqs at time intervals when most Euro pirates are inactive. In addition: some of the broadcasts emanate from stations far outside Europe. And then the utility stations: many freqs being marked as utility channel, are hardly be used. There are a few channels which should be seriously avoided: 6215.5kHz -a distress channel and one of the reasons for the raid on the Ross Revenge. World Mission Radio was using in the late 80s. 6268kHz seems to be a distress channel for narrow-band direct-printing telegraphy. 6282kHz is a distress channel for digital Selcall (?). TRYing to answer the other question is more difficult. Does the use of the Internet make it easier for the Dutch RDR to raid stations? In other words: is it irresponsible to make Dutch pirate frequencies and hours of operation accessible to the RDR via internet news groups? Many active listeners gave their opinion and you shouldn't be too surprised the various opinions differ quite a lot. So far the Internet has been a wonderful medium to quickly and efficiently make listeners aware of future activities. And: the same applies the other way round when it comes to reception reports and remarks from listeners towards the stations. Is it a good idea to restrict the flow of information knowing that the authorities also read the information? Quite a number of stations are broadcasting on a regular basis from fixed locations, you should expect that in case the RDR wants to track down a station they make use of sophisticated and professional devices to carry out their job. Whether they need or use Internet info remains uncertain. Using different locations and broadcasting with less power and less frequently seem to be better security precautions thus avoiding action from authorities. More publicity means a greater chance of being caught but to what degree the authorities use the Internet to aid in their tracking of pirates is a difficult question. As it is not particularly difficult to track pirates down these days because of the high tech equipment, it looks like the reality is - at least in our eyes- that the RDR people are relying more on their own self monitoring than from Internet publicity. Using the Internet information as a source seems unlikely. If there are station OPs who do not want others to publish info about their station, freqs and other details should contact these mags and/or Internet E-Zines thus avoiding annoyance!

☐ Sat/ Sun Nov. 24th/ 25th **RADIO MONO** was noted on 6295 with excellent signals and crisp clear mod. Radio Mono is a new station or perhaps better: a new name in SW free radio land. The voice behind the station is a familiar one in SW circles. Sat Dec. 1st the station was again heard on 6295 with a very strong signal. Sat and Su Dec. 8th/9th Radio Mono was back on 6295 but this time a parallel freq within the 31 mb was added: 9380. The 48 mb signal was booming in and also within the 31 mb a strong signal was monitored. < radiomono@hotmail.com >. Most likely Radio Mono is the same station as mentioned on page 5 (mysterious station top right).

☐ **RADIO NORDSEE WS** returned after an absence of more than half a year on SW Sat October 20th. Frequency was 6205 and the signal was very strong. Apparently the station is using new powerful transmitting equipment. Sat Nov. 17th saw German Radio Nordsee WS testing on 6175 kHz, just inside the 49 mb. The signal was fair. A stronger signal was received later that day when tests continued on 6210 kHz with 80W. Address: P.O.Box 2209, D-77612 Offenburg in Germany.

☐ **RADIO NORTHLIGHT** (?) was heard Sept. 8th/9th in connection with the Gronau meeting. A marathon show was aired on 9290 kHz with just over 100W of power. Sunday Sept. 16th 04.00 - 05.00 UTC 2001 the station was on 6295 USB with 80W and 05.00 - 08.00 UTC on 6295 kHz in AM-mode (25 watts). Radio Northlight was raided on Sat September 29th during a broadcast on 6300 kHz. At 13.23 UTC two men from the German PTT and two men from the local police entered the studio confiscating the Icom-710 transceiver. The station didn't cause any interference to neighbours or on the SW bands, so it was "just" a routine raid. For more infos regarding the raid surf to the website: < www.StudioNorthlight.de.vu >. Sunday October 21st Northlight was heard via relay on 6305. Power was some 600W. Studio Northlight has a new Email address which is < mail@StudioNorthlight.de >. Website: < www.StudioNorthlight.de >. New address: P.O. Box 1136, 06201 Merseburg, Germany.

☐ **RADIO NOVA INT.** (UK) was heard during several occasions. Fri July 27th Nova started a three day marathon on 6210 kHz. Unfortunately propagation was

very unreliable that weekend. Stations from Great Britain were all rather weak while continental stations were often strong pointing at short skip. In the pxs a new address was announced: RNI, c/o P.O.Box 130 in 92504 Ruil Cedex France. Sat/ Sun August 11th and 12th Radio Nova conducted a 24 hour test on 7450 kHz within the 41 mb. Both Signal strength and modulation were excellent making this test very successfully. Future plans regarding regular use of 41 metres remain uncertain at the moment. Two weeks later Nova was heard all weekend long on 6210. This was a Bank Holiday weekend and trms continued on Monday as well. Due to some technical problems, the main rig was replaced by a spare unit on Saturday and this resulted in a significantly less powerful modulation quality. Further successful 7450 tests were heard Fri/ Sat August 31st/ Sept. 1st. F ri/ Sat/ Sun Sept. 14th/15th/16th Nova repeated a few August pxs on 7450 with a very loud signal. Reception in Scandinavia and West and central Europe was excellent. Last but not least: Nova was on 6210 from Fri evening Sept. 21st till the late evening of Sun Sept. 23rd. Also on this frequency, a loud and clear signal was observed. Sat/ Sun Oct. 27th and 28th Nova put out tests on 7525 kHz. The test was indeed very successful with strong signals noted on the continent. Modulation quality was loud and clear. In the weekend of Nov. 23rd, 24th and 25th the station was heard on 6210 with a solid signal and loud mod. Sat Dec. 1st/ Sun Dec. 2nd the complete broadcast was repeated on 7450. On this freq the signal did not have the usual quality due to the somewhat funny conditions. New Email add is < RNI@onmail.co.uk >. Snailmail add is (4). Radio Nova will be on air with lengthy trms over the X-Mas Holiday Season. At the moment Nova has two Dutch and two English presenters. The station is eagerly looking for a new German deejay. RNI requests a SAE from the UK or 2 x IRC's or 2 x US\$ from overseas. Email is < RNI@onmail.co.uk >.

☐ **RADIO OMROEP ZUID** has been successfully testing a couple of times on 21890 kHz. Sat November 3rd at 15.00 UTC ROZ was heard in the USA testing on 21890 kHz. A mix of classic rock tracks were aired. Nov. 10th the station was once again heard in the USA between 12.51-14.44 UTC. A wide variety of popmusic was aired. Power is unknown. Email: < roz.am@iae.nl >. No snailmail address is available.

☐ **OZONE RADIO** is regularly noted on 41 mb freqs including 7434, 7440 & 7490 kHz which are good choices. The station was a number of times heard in fair quality. The station is offering interesting free radio news and has a nice choice of pop music. The following Email was received from Radio Ozone: "We are intending to have a radical change at Radio Ozone International, we have decided to trim some of our timing and open up new time slots and days of transmissions but we have to state here and now we do have interference problems at the transmitting site, once these are cured it will be all systems go. So here now is the plan: Friday evenings 01.00 to 04.00 BST on 5.800: Saturday evenings at 17.00 BST onwards on 5.830 or 5.800: Sunday mornings 07.30 to 10.30 BST on 7.490 and some tests on a Sunday afternoon quite possibly around 14.00 BST on 5.800. As always we look forward to your input on our output as well as reception reports, correct ones of course will be sent our QSL, but we need more from you than just reception reports, we need listeners. Prince Terry/Mr Ozone." Add is 85 Hillside Rd West, Suffolk, NR35 RH in the UK. Email: < bbms4ozone@compuserve.com >.

☐ **RADIO PACMAN** can be heard irregularly on 6400 kHz, a freq nowadays used for QSO-ing purposes. Pacman is a Dutch station only using some 10W of power. Nevertheless the station mostly provides a solid signal! No address available.

☐ Last July **RADIO PAMELA** announced to be ceasing their SW pxs. Main reason for this decision is the lack of response, a problem which not only affects Pamela but many colleague stations as well! This is not the end of the station as station OP Steve Most continues on the Internet. Pamela can be contacted via < radiopamela@hotmail.com >. Last news: Pamela has now closed down as Steve Most, the owner, is in prison due to a very bad crime having nothing to do with radio. Brian Young will be starting up a new station to replace Radio Pamela on the Internet and maybe SW as well.

☐ **RADIO PANDORA** (10) was heard Sun Oct. 7th and 21st on 7475 and Nov. 4th the station moved to 7400 kHz. Sun Nov. 18th Pandora was on 7475 and Sun Dec. 2nd back on 7400. Signals on 41 metres are mostly fair. For the time being the station is inactive due to lack of reliable sites. Email is < pandoraradio@hotmail.com >.

☐ **RADIO PARADISE** is a Dutch station broadcasting irregularly on SW. Sun Oct. 21st, Sat the 27th and Sun the 28th saw the station on 6199 kHz with mostly fair signals. Power was only 10W coming from a single 807. In Nov. Paradise was frequently heard on 6305, for instance on Sun Nov. 18th, Fro Nov. 30th and Sat Dec. 1st. Sat Dec. 8th saw the station on 6295 and 6300 with poor signal strength. The day after however a much better signal was picked up on 6305. The station operated with 25 and later with 40W which is a bit more than the 10W announced earlier. Paradise has a new Email address: < paradiseinternational@hotmail.com >.

☐ **PIRATE RADIO FOX #1** is the name of a new station which was first heard on 6305 Thursday Nov. 1st. The same QRG was used two days later on Saturdays. Signal quality was rather poor.

☐ **Q-103**, a station based in Northern Europe, is still active on the SW bands. Q-103 was active on 10330 Khz but due to QRM the station has decided to make a move to 11440 during the 2001/2002 winter period. In addition a 41 mb freq will be used.

☐ **RADIO SKYLINE** from Germany was testing on a handful of freqs Sun Oct. 21st. Freqs included 6240, 6275, 6285, 6294 & 6313 kHz. Sun Nov. 4th Skyline was on 7500 kHz with a fairish signal. A brandnew QSL can be obtained via the well-known P.O.Box 73, 7160 AB Neede address.



☐ **SPACEMAN RADIO** was testing on 7500 Sun Nov. 25th. The station provided a very strong signal causing severe QRM to CWR on 7480 kHz. Email add is <komopdeband@hotmail.com>.

☐ Sun Oct. 21st German **SPEEDWING RADIO** was heard on 6300 with a nice signal. The broadcast marked the first activity following a period of silence. Power was approx. 50W. Address used to be (1), we are not sure whether this is still the case.

☐ According to the OP of Star Club Radio the new German station **RADIO STOERTEBECKER** was raided by German authorities on Sunday Sunday Nov. 18th at 11.05 UTC (local time.). Radio Stoertebecker carried out a live broadcast in the 48 m band that morning and announced a mobile number and a Gelsenkirchen postal address several times. The station was fairly new in the SW scene and was at the moment of the raid active on 6270 kHz. The German authorities confiscated the tx and modulator. Studio equipment remained untouched which was good news for the station OP.

☐ **SWINGING RADIO ENGLAND** is one of the three regular "All Weekend" stations emanating from the London area. SRE often starts trms on Fri evening continuing till the late Sun evening. Since early August the signal seems to have been boosted. Pxs on 6276 are clearly heard on the continent. One of the station's strong points is the very loud modulation. SRE is not only playing pop music but also blues, jazz and even long comedy sketches. This makes the programme contents different from other SW stations. The station is operating on a weekly basis. Thursday August 2nd saw a test on 5810 in the evening hours but no further attempts have been done within the 51 mb. WNKR OP Dave Martin has been heard a number of times and it seems he's now part of the presenting team.. During the weekend after the New York airplane attack, SRE only played easy type classical music without announcements. SRE aired a In Memory of George Harrison programme as part of its weekend output on Sat/Sun Dec. 1st and 2nd. Beatle George. Harrison died Thursday Nov. 28th in LA and his death resulted in a great number of Memorial broadcasts on both legal and illegal stations. SRE can be heard each weekend on 6276 with fine signal quality. E-mail is <Swingingradioengland@hotmail.com>.

☐ **RADIO Dr. TIM** has a new address: SRS/Germany, P.O.Box 1136, D-06201 Merseburg in Germany. A faster delivery of the listeners' mail should now be guaranteed. Sat Sept. 29th Dr. Tim put out a special 15 min. broadcast on 6292 following the raid of colleague station Studio Nortlight. Email: <doctortim@t-online.de>. New website is <DoctorTim.Free-Radio.de> showing no less than 80 photos of the popular Merchweiler camp which took place in August.

☐ **RADIO TITANIC** Tulpstraat 10 A, 2223 HS Katwijk, the Netherlands (West Coast Radio add). From now on the station can be reached via Westcoast Radio's E-mail: <westcoast48@noknok.nl>.

☐ After a very long while of non-activity, **RADIO TONAIR** returned to the airwaves Sun Nov. 25th. Freq was 6373 kHz which is almost identical to the Brigitte freq. Address remains P.O.Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddum, The Netherlands.

☐ **RADIO TORENVALK** returned after a long absence on SW 6295 kHz Tuesday evening Sept. 25th. The signal quality was excellent as always. RTL continues on an irregular basis on 48 metres. Remarkable is the station seems to be avoiding Sundays, instead broadcasts take place on weekdays. Address is P.O.Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddum., the Netherlands. Email: <doctortvalve@hotmail.com>.

☐ **TOWER RADIO/ VERONIQUE** disappeared from the scene early July. In contrast with some stories the station was not raided. Early July the station received a written warning from the Dutch authorities. In that letter the station was ordered to immediately cease trms under penalty of a 5,000 guilders fine. A copy of the letter was to be read on the station's website <listen.to/towerradio>. Sun July 29th the station returned under a new name- Radio Veronique- on various freqs. For instance Sun Sept. 2nd the station was on 6288 with 500W. A farewell trm was aired mid October using 6402 and 6306 kHz. Following that marathon which started at 15.00 UTC Fri Oct. 12th and ended Sun Oct. 14th at 18.00 UTC the station should change its name into **RADIO VERONIQUE**. However, that same weekend the station was visited by the Dutch RDR.. They only checked the antenna coax feeder. As it was warm, the conclusion was the station was on air. Although we cannot confirm, rumour has it that the station was using 4 kW of power!! The RDR didn't enter the studio. They only checked if a signal was radiated by the antenna. The OP was not aware of the visit, the authorities acted very discreetly. It is expected the station will get a high fine which could amount to 5000 guilders! Following that incident the station continued under the name Veronique and a number of broadcasts were heard on 6402 kHz. Sun November 4th saw the final Veronique broadcast on 6402, at least: the final one for the time being. Sat Dec. 8th in the late afternoon a test on 11492 was conducted. Website: <listen.to/Veronique>. Address still is: P.O.Box 49, 7475 ZG Markelo. New Email: <Shortwave@Netmail.nl>.

☐ A mysterious station- **UNID-** has been testing on Sat and Sun Nov. 10th/ 11th on 7500 kHz. Non-stop pop music was heard, not being interrupted by any jingles or announcements. The signal was relatively strong and music continued all weekend long..

☐ **RADIO VERONICA**- a new Dutch station on SW making its debut on 6240 Sat Sept. 29th- was raided Fri Oct. 5th at 13.00 UTC. Five men representing police and RDR were involved. At the moment of the raid, the station was not on air. And one more Rohde & Schwarz SK50 was confiscated. Sat Dec. 8th saw a Radio Veronica (the same??) operating on 6241 kHz. The broadcast suffered from a few technical problems. Some 20W were used in combination with a 40W modulator, resulting in a fine signal. Add: P.O.BOX 1732, D-48578 Gronau Germany.

☐ **RADIO VICTORIA** was noted during several occasions on 6285 SW with mostly nice signals. Sat Dec. 1st a test was conducted on 25610 / LSB using 150W of power into a 11 metre antenna. A number of Emails from the USA confirmed the signal made it across the Atlantic. Victoria only uses an Email add which is <freeradiovictoria@hotmail.com>.

☐ **VOICE OF THE NETHERLANDS** (3) has been heard with a number of irregular trms both with low and high power. For instance on the 9th of December the powerful rig was used on 7485. This was a test in connection with the New Year's Eve trm together with RECH. New website: <www.geocities.com/voice_of_the_netherlands/>. Email: <voth@hotmail.com>.

☐ August 5th saw a mysterious station on 6290 kHz. The broadcast was a relay of two German state-owned legal radio stations, namely WDR & SWR. Signal and modulation were excellent. According to one source, it was a broadcast via **RADIO 101**. August 12th saw more WDR pxs via Radio 101. The signal on 6290 was booming in. Fri August 17th and Sat August 18th Radio 101 was heard on 6285, both times with fine signals. August 25th a relay of Radio Köln was heard on 6295//7140 kHz. Oct. 25th the station returned on 6295 with a powerful signal. In the past Radio 101 Int. used the P.O.Box 2, B-4680 Gemmenich, Belgium. address but we are not sure whether this still is the correct one! See also Radio Mono!!

☐ **RADIO WAVES INT.** (4) is celebrating its 18th birthday in November. Every weekend in November the station is active on the various SW bands. Festivities started on 7484 kHz on Sat/Sun Nov. 3rd & 4th. On Sundays RWI was also monitored on 7120 via the IRRS. Relays are also taking place via the Eastside Radio Relay Service and of course via own equipment on 11401 kHz provided the tx has been repaired in time. Sun Nov. 11th RWI continued its celebrations with a broadcast on 6260, apparently via the Eastside Radio Relay Service. Signal was ok. Station OP Peter Hills was heard with a C&W show. More RWI: 24th Nov. 3985/ 25th Nov. 7484 weak signal. Also on 7120 kHz. at several dates! Sun Dec. 9th RWI was on 7475, there was some QRM from VOTN/RECH on 7485. Email: <waves@imaginet.fr>. Website: <go.to/rwi>.

☐ **WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO** (2) remains active from time to time on 7446 kHz. Nov. 18th WMR was on 7450. A poor signal was noted on the continent. Add is 14 Stone Row, Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, BT52 1EP Northern Ireland. New Email add: <wmrsw@37.com>.

☐ **WEST & NORTH KENT RADIO** was putting out the station's history on 6285 Sun August 5th. Fri August 10th WNKR and Sat August 18th was heard in the evening hours on 6285 giving out a telephone number. Also August 25th/ 26th 6285 was in use celebrating the station's 10th birthday. Sept. 9th WNKR was heard in poor/ fair quality on 6301. The following Email add was announced: <wnkr@37.com>. WNKR was a very regular SW stations in the first half of the 90s and was also associated to WGAS. Andy Walker used to be on WNKR, Dave Martin was the tx engineer. Also Terry Philips (Nova), Adrian Cooke, Sam the Dog and Martin C were involved. Just to fresh up your memory: WGAS was a joint effort of Mi Amigo (Terry Philips), WNKR and WFRL.

☐ **WRCR** (10) has a new e-mail: <wrcr@email.net>. WRCR was heard Sun Nov. 18th on 7475 via Pandora.

☐ **WEST COAST RADIO** is a very regular weekend station. WCR often uses 6400 kHz but occasionally also 48 mb freqs. Sat Oct. 27th 6328 was used, a rather unusual freq. WCR uses a 50W R & S SK 010 tx connected to an Inverted V antenna. Email: <westcoast48@noknok.nl>.

☐ Following a period of inactivity, **RADIO WONDERFUL** is back on 7120 via the IRRS. A new QSL and info-sheet are available. Internet trms are taking place every 3rd Saturday 22.00-24.00 hours CET via <www.live365.com>. In addition the station is to be heard on the following dates: Dec. 8th and 29th.. Email: <radio_wonderful@web.de>.

☐ Well-known US DXer and author of radio books Andrew Yoder has written a new book entitled "Pirate Radio Stations". The 350 page book contains listings of most of the active underground and pirate stations which are operated at present time and of course a lot of interesting infos.. When buying the book, you also obtain a CD with numerous audio files from pirate & underground stations all over the world. The book costs \$ 24.95 + \$ 3.00 P&P. You can pay the equivalent in UK pounds, German Marks or Dutch guilders. If you order the book from Europe, you should contact Andrew Yoder. He will give you details about the exact price. The address is Andrew Yoder, P.O.Box 642, Mont Alto, PA 17237, USA. Email: <ayoder@cyn.net>.

☐ **KOM OP DE BAND - NEWS** is a brandnew fortnightly Email Magazin focusing on medium wave pirates. Since Bandscan disappeared, there was no publication covering the medium wave activities. But from now on there's a good alternative. The E-Magazin covers not only loggings, addresses, but also news from the stations. If you are interested send an Email to: <axel-roese@web.de>.

OFFSHORE RADIO NEWS

Plan for New Offshore Station scuppered

Plans to launch a new offshore commercial radio station have almost certainly been scuppered, despite the alleged availability of millions of pounds of financial backing. It must have been for ages that there were rumours about offshore projects. Early August a rumour originating from England reached us covering a story about a new radioship on the Northsea planning to broadcast to Great Britain. The name of record producer Mickey Most was mentioned as one of the backers. The organisation would be looking for a suitable vessel to be converted into a floating radio ship. On the ship a Veronica type aerial would be erected. Pxs in English would be uplinked to the ship and then rebroadcasted.



Peace Radio New Offshore Station in Israel?

The Dutch Veronica magazine reports that there's a plan by a Dutch TV producer - Harry de Winter - to start a new offshore Peace station off the coast of Israel. As far as we know, this is NOT an attempt to refloat the Voice of Peace because that name is copyrighted to Abie Nathan. The new station's output would be fully dedicated to peace. At present time Harry de Winter is looking for enough backing within the Jewish community. He also spoke to future partners at the TV fair in Cannes, France.

Wreckage Radio Uilenspiegel buried

Oct. 15th work started to bury the remains of the former Radio Antwerp ship the Uilenspiegel. The remains of the concrete ship were still accessible to people taking a walk at the beach near the Dutch/ Belgian border. Antwerp was set up by Georges de Caluwé. Trms started just outside the territorial limit off Zeebrugge Oct. 10th 1962. Within days the station became immensely popular. Hardly two months later in December 1962, the ship lost its anchor and ran aground on the Dutch-Belgian border close to the so-called Zwingel. The ship was a symbol for Free Radio and many tourists were injured when trying to climb on the ship. That was in the period 1963-1971. It was then decided to scrap part of the ship creating a much safer situation. The keel however was still stuck in the sand of the beach and remained a dangerous object. 40 years after the ship ran aground, a definitive solution has become reality. All remains are totally buried, the place where the ship is buried has become a permanent symbol for the Free radio fight in the 1960s.

RADIO CAROLINE NEWS

Radio Caroline

The Radio Caroline Support Group Netherlands has secured a cable-output for Radio Caroline in the northern and eastern part of the Netherlands covering the following areas: Groningen, Friesland, Drenthe and Twente. The output will be available as from January 1st 2002.

In Memoriam: Ernie Stephenson (1931-2001)

On October 19th 2001, Ernie Stephenson, The Chief Engineer of the Ross Revenge, passed away. Ernie was a great man without whom Radio Caroline might not have existed anymore. His death is a great loss to the organization. Peter Moore, Caroline's station-manager wrote an "In Memoriam" which can be read on 212.142.2.146/caroline/index-uk.html.

Caroline jock Nigel Harris has his own website: < go.to/nigelharris >.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Radio Flanders Int.

The Belgian Int. Service of Radio Flanders Int. has ceased its broadcasts via the Waver transmitter site. Instead airtime will be leased abroad. A satellite delivered service assures a high quality transfer from Radio Flanders pxs to the relay stations. RVI-1 & RVI-2 are now the new names for two digital satellite services making use of one digital channel. RVI kills two birds with one stone: they provide a digital satellite service and at the same time they deliver pxs which are to be rebroadcasted on SW.

New Station: Q Music starts November 12th

Q Music is a new Belgian commercial radiostation which took to the air Monday Nov. 12th. The brandnew station is owned by the Vlaamse Mediamaatschappij (VMM) which could be translated as the Flemish Media Company. Q Music aims to be contemporary, informative and young. The station doesn't want to become a copy of Radio Donna, a state-owned station which is very popular. The key-figure in this new operation- Dirk Lodewijckx- is responsible for the station's look, sound and the promotional side. And this same person was responsible for the Radio Donna image. No doubt there will be parallels between Donna and Q Music. Q promises a slick mix of up-to-date quality music. To promote Belgians newest station, the VMM has started a huge promotional campaign. Everyone must know what Q Music is and what the station stands for. Website: < www.q-music.be >.

Former Veronica engineer passes away

A few months ago the former chief engineer of Radio Veronica, José van Groningen, died after a wasting disease. He was for instance the one responsible for the Veronica switch in 1972. The station moved from 192 to the 538 metres at the other end of the AM dial. Apart from his work for Radio Veronica, he was involved with engineering jobs on the MV Communicator and the mysterious MV Nannell. In the Summer of 1999, Jose was one of the guests during the 11 day Veronica revival on 1224 AM. A very talented and skilled radio engineer has passed away. May he rest in peace.

Former Veronica managing-director 92!

Wednesday Sept. 12th Bull Verweij who was in charge of Radio Veronica between 1962- 1974, became 92.

Rosko back on British radio

Sat Sept. 1st it was announced that radio personality The Emperor Rosko would be returning on the British radio. Starting Saturday Oct. 6th he's to be heard on the Classical Gold Digital Network in the UK. between 12 and 3 in the afternoon. The px containing the classic hits from the past 4 decades, comes from his L.A. studio. Rosko started his European career in the mid 60s on Radio Caroline. In addition he was working for Radio Luxembourg, BBC Radio One and a few years ago on satellite-delivered European Klassik Rock.

The First Radio Essex Reunion

Sat Sept. 1st at exactly 12 o'clock several former Radio Essex staff members got together for a reunion lunch in London. 35 Years ago it was Radio Essex being the first offshore station putting out pxs around the clock 24 hours a day. As the station was putting out pxs on relatively low power, it was in fact the first British local commercial station.. Prominent guests that day was the Bates family. It was Roy Bates who was in charge of Radio Essex. Nowadays he's involved with Sealand, the artificial structure off the south-east coast of the UK. Others who attended the meeting are John Aston, the former programme-controller, Greg Bance, also known as Roger Scott and Arnold Layne on R.N.I.; Guy Hamilton, Martin Kayne, Mark West (Wesley) and engineer Dix Dixon. Dick Palmer, who used to be the so-called captain of the fort Radio Essex was broadcasting from, was absent, unfortunately he had other commitments. And David Sinclair who lives in Canada was also absent. Mark Wesley shoot a film of the nostalgic meeting. It is the intention to mix the 2001 material with old stuff from the 1960s.

Radio London RSL

Recently it was announced that no less than 30,000 persons visited the Radio London website last August. The Radio London RSL could be listened to via the website, for many radio enthusiasts a great opportunity to hear the nostalgic sounds. The AM coverage was restricted not to wonder as the power was limited to a few watts only. Programme-controller Paul Graham said only one other English station had more visitors on their website: Virgin Radio. He added that the many big names attracted such large numbers surfing to the London website. In the mean time the organisation is offered airtime on AM from the European mainland. However, the organisation has also plans to start broadcast via the Sky Digital Network to secure Big L's future bringing back the station on a permanent basis. Talks with a Dutch backer should be taking place. We'll keep you informed!!

Ferry Maat hopes to start new radio station

Deejay and jingleproducer Ferry Maat intends to start his own radio station in the New Year. Plans are not totally new: the Dutch authorities already issued a licence but Ferry Maat took a rest and waited because it was financially not feasible. The format will be easy-listening and the name could become Easy FM. playing artists such as Frank Sinatra and the Carpenters. The station will aim at the 40+ aged listeners in the Netherlands. A lot of radio listeners will Ferry Maat as a very talented radio personality starting his career on the Dutch service of R.N.I. in the early 70s. He also worked for Hlt Radio, Radio 10 and the Dutch national oldies station Radio 2. He did his last show on Radio 2 Dec. 31st 2000 after which he was forced to leave the station following a serious dispute with the person responsible for the choice of records in his daily afternoon show.

Radio Luxembourg

Dutch radio expert Hans Knot produced an interesting Radio Luxembourg story covering his memories on the Dutch and Flemish service in the early 60s. This story plus a lot of photos can be found on < www.icce.ruq.nl/~soundscapes >.

Website London 1980s pirates

For anybody with an interest in 1980s London land-based pirates, a new website is constructed. On this site the content from mags like TX Magazine / Radio Today and AM/FM. There's also a load of airchecks from stations of the time. < www.amfm.org.uk >.

Where are they now?

Charlie Wolf is reportedly leaving TalkSport to join Cork's new station Red FM. Wolf is most famous for his time with 80s offshore pirate Laser 558. Following the demise of Laser, Charlie joined the new Atlantic 252. Luc van Rooij joined Radio 192 as from Thursday evening Oct. 25th onwards. He presents a weekly programme on Radio 192 becoming increasingly popular in the Netherlands. Luc van Rooij is the voice of TV station Yorin and used to work for VARA & AVRO Radio, RTL Rock Radio and Arrow Classic Rock. In the 80s he was heard on Radio Monique using the name Luc Dardin. His current 192 rock show is scheduled between 22.00- 24.00 hours CET. See also < www.192goedidee.nl >.

August 31st saw the 50th birthday of Peter Holland. That same day he was celebrating his 10th birthday as a Radio 10 FM deejay and his 30th anniversary as a deejay. Peter started his career in 1971 on Radio Northsea Int. Between 19.00- 22.00 hours a special celebration party was aired on 675 AM and several radio 10 FM freqs. A number of former RNI colleagues were guest: Hans Hogendoorn, Nico Steenberg, Leo van der Goot and engineer Ferry de Groot. Peter Holland has his very own website very much worth a visit: < www.peterhollandonline.com >.

Dutch Radio Day

The 2002 edition of this highly popular day for radio freaks will take place on Saturday March 2nd. Location is the Koningszaal near the Artis Zoo, Plantage Middenlaan 41-43 in Amsterdam. If you are an SMC contributor, admission is free. All other people pay 10 Euro. You can become an SMC contributor by paying 10 Dutch guilders or 5 Euro on giro 4065700 or bankaccount 98 80 40 301 care of Media Communicatie in Amsterdam..There's a good chance that former Caroline/ Mi Amigo deejay presenter Brian Anderson will be special guest. Nowadays he's running a company spreading syndicate radio shows in Asia. Also Johnny Lewis (Radio Caroline, The Voice of Peace, Laser 730, a number of Irish stations and UK-based local stations) has plans to attend the meeting in Amsterdam. Former R.N.I. colleagues Pieter Damave and Hans ten Hoge will also come to Amsterdam. More guests will be announced in December of this year.

Txs to: Hans Knot, SRS-News, Dr. Tim News.